

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AGR-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 EB-03 TRSE-00 DRC-01

COME-00 CIEP-03 /056 W

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R 030945Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4110

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0652

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EAGR

SUBJ: GOL OFFICIAL DISCUSSES FRANCO-GERMAN CAP PROBLEMS

1. ON OCTOBER 2, MFA SECRETARY-GENERAL PIERRE WURTH
TOLD DCM THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAD INFORMED PRIME
MINISTER THORN ON SEPTEMBER 23 THAT GISCARD APPROVED
SCHMIDT'S RELUCTANCE TO GRANT EC AGRICULTURAL PRICE RISE ABOVE
4 PERCENT. GISCARD AGREED WITH SCHMIDT THAT NEED TO COMBAT
INFLATION WAS PARAMOUNT, BUT FRENCH PRESIDENT COULD NOT TAKE
SUBSTANTIAL INTERNAL POLITICAL RISK OF ENDORSING
GERMAN'S POSITION PUBLICLY. ACCORDING TO WURTH, FRANCO-
GERMAN UNDERSTANDING BROKE DOWN WHEN SCHMIDT MADE FRG
REJECTION OF 5 PERCENT SEEM LIKE UNCONDITIONAL
VETO, RATHER THAN ASKING SIMPLY FOR DISCUSSION OF
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VARIOUS NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES AND GENERAL

PHILOSOPHY OF CAP BEFORE PROCEEDING TO 5 PERCENT PRICE
RISE. GISCARD'S FUNDAMENTAL ACCORD WITH FRG INSISTENCE
ON ANTI-INFLATION MEASURES EXPLAINS FRANCE'S "MODERATE"
REACTION TO SCHMIDT'S INITIAL VETO OF 5 PERCENT CAP
PRICE RISE.

2. WURTH ADDED THAT THORN WAS VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED
BY SCHMIDT'S INTELLIGENCE AND PRAGMATISM, IMPLYING THAT
THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR (WHO ALSO HEADS A SOCIALIST/LIBERAL
COALITION) MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXERT INCREASING INFLUENCE
OVER THE GOL AT THE EXPENSE OF PARIS' TRADITIONAL
ASCENDENCY HERE. FARKAS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL POLICIES, AGRICULTURAL PRICES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUXEMB00652
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740279-1027
From: LUXEMBOURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741076/aaaacnav.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOL OFFICIAL DISCUSSES FRANCO-GERMAN CAP PROBLEMS
TAGS: EAGR, FR, GE, EEC, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT), (WURTH, PIERRE), (GISCARD, D'ESTAING VALERY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005